

Application No.: 08/841,224
Filed: April 29, 1997
Group Art Unit: 2856

Please cancel claim 18 without prejudice.

REMARKS

Claims 17 and 18 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over O'Brien et al. (US Pat. No. 5,392,650). Claim 20 has been rejected under § 103(a) over O'Brien.

The present invention relates to the alleviation of undesirable effects of substrate voltage transients on gyroscope operation. Independent amended claim 17 requires forming a trench in the substrate substantially between the interleaved comb electrodes and the substrate in the overlap region of the interleaved comb electrodes. O'Brien discloses grooves 44a aligned parallel to fingers 40a and 42a. O'Brien, however, does not disclose forming a trench in the overlap region of interleaved comb electrodes, as in the presently claimed invention. Accordingly, claim 17 and the claims dependent therefrom are believed to be patentable thereover.

The specification has been amended to provide antecedent bases for the subject matter of claims 6 and 20.

Applicant acknowledges the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 1-16 and 19. Claim 19 has been rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, all claims are believed to be in condition for allowance, and reconsideration and indication thereof is respectfully requested. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned attorney to

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discuss any matter which would expedite allowance of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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